

REMARKS

Credit To Deposit Account

The Examiner has withdrawn the finality of the previous Final Office Action after a Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief have been filed. Applicant hereby requests that the fees paid for the Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief be credited to Deposit Account No. 07-1185.

Rejections Under 35 USC §102

Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by **Villalona-Calero et al.** This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Villalona-Calero et al. describe using human corticotropin releasing factor (hCRF) to treat patients with peritumoral brain edema. **Villalona-Calero et al.** report that human corticotropin releasing factor inhibits vascular leakage of plasma constituents in response to injury (last sentence on page 71), and the anti-edematous action of human corticotropin releasing factor appears to be mediated by a direct effect on endothelial cells (see Summary). **Villalona-Calero et al.**, however, do not teach or suggest a method of using corticotropin releasing

factor to inhibit angiogenesis in a target tissue as claimed herein. Angiogenesis is a process of forming new blood vessels. **Villalona-Calero** et al. do not teach or suggest any relationship between angiogenesis and the prevention of vascular leakage, and one of ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize that these are two distinct biological processes. Absent teaching that shows any relationship between angiogenesis and anti-edematous effects, one of ordinary skill in the art would not find the teaching of **Villalona-Calero** et al. applicable to inhibition of angiogenesis as claimed herein.

The present invention is also drawn to a method of using urocortin to inhibit angiogenesis in a target tissue. **Villalona-Calero** et al. only describe the use of human corticotropin releasing factor (for an unrelated purpose); **Villalona-Calero** et al. do not teach or suggest anything related to the uses of urocortin. Hence, **Villalona-Calero** et al. do not provide one of ordinary skill in the art with any reasonable and logical basis to use urocortin or corticotropin releasing factor to inhibit angiogenesis in a target tissue as claimed herein. **Villalona-Calero** et al. do not anticipate the instant invention because **Villalona-Calero** et al. do not teach or suggest each and every aspect of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003. If any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record for immediate resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

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